Bound photocopies of papers from the Public Record Office re the life and career of James Barry (d. 1865), Inspector General of Military Hospitals, including an account (in own hand?) of their career

Publication/Creation

1830-1914

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/e4j3dppq

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.

Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
https://wellcomecollection.org

373

RAMC 373

R.A.M.C
MUNIMENT
ROOM

R.A.M.G
MUNIMENT
ROOM

WAR OFFICE

PERSONAL FILES

NO. 14651/1

DR. JAMES BARRY,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL, A.M.S.

CLOSED

Number.	From whom and date.
14651	Important.
1.	Memo
	SUBJECT.
	Insp. General. a ms
	Dr. J. Barry
Date of Registry— 25.3.9	Papers re

Former paper.	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date

Referred to	Date
~~R.~~ —	25/3

CLOSED

Important

INDEXED
25/11/36

~~Transfer eventually to PRO~~

C

For authority to p.a.

CLOSED

pa

SCHEDUI

LETTERS TO ... ICE.

(T

DATE	FI	Number of Enclosures in each.

R.

Col Babtie thinks that these papers should not be destroyed

W. Amos
16/8
03

(To be continued on fresh jacket if necessary.)

ans'd. 1 July 1914

All Communications should be addressed to the Firm.

SIR CHARLES R. McGRIGOR, BAR.T & Co
Army Agents & Bankers.

Telephone No 5405 Gerrard
Telegraphic Address.
"DHREAM, LONDON."

25, Charles Street,
St James's Square, S.W.

London 25th June 1914

Dear Colonel Johnston

In going through a number of old papers we have come on the enclosed which is evidently a draft of a memorial of the late Dr James Barry.

It gives some particulars of his service and as, I shall be sorry to leave

Inspector General Dr Barry

Army Med. Dep.

The humble memorial of

believe in his (?) own hand-
writing.
I also send you one of his (?)
cards & a commission which
you may care to have as
a memento of an extra-
ordinary woman.
We are moving to our
new premises 39 Panton Street
two doors from the Haymarket
on the 11th of next month.
I shall be sorry to leave

Inspector General Dr. Barry
Army Medl Dept

N

The humble memorial of
Dr James Barry, Inspector General
of Hospitals —

Sheweth that your
memorialist D. H. Army as
the age
he has
brought
Montserrat
to Bee
bados
the

this old house which is
to be pulled down (it is
falling down) but we shall
no doubt be much more
comfortable in a more
up to date & larger building

Behave me
Your humble
Bd Mcfuelson

ist when
D & he
at once
the
to
an officer
to the
possible
by
too sick
to Corfu
for advice

Inspector General Dr Barry —
Army Medl Dept

The humble memorial of
Dr James Barry, Inspector General
of Hospitals —

Sheweth that your
Memorialist entered the Army as
a Medical Officer under the age
of ~~the~~ fourteen; that he has
continuously served to the present
time at the Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius
Jamaica + Trinidad St Helena, Barbados,
Antigua, Malta, Corfu, the
Crimea, and Canada

— that your memorialist when
at Malta in 185[1] was promoted to be
Deputy Inspector General ~~[illegible]~~, and was
transferred to Corfu, when he at once
volunteered for service in the
Crimea, but there being no
vacancy at the time for an officer
of his rank he, in the meantime, endeavoured to ~~the~~
make himself as useful as possible
to the Army, before Sebastopol by
obtaining permission for 500 sick
& wounded men being sent to Corfu
of whom he sent back fit for active

+ And has charge of the Lunatic Asylum at Trinidad & has attended to the sanitary [illegible] of the Island & the Spanish Main & the Spanish Colonies

of the marquis [illegible]

4

Service nearly 400 —

— that during that period the 97th Regt having been ordered from Malta to the Piraeus, your Memorialist received a letter from the Offg Comdg the Regt (now Major Genl Lockyer) to the effect that his Regt ~~and~~ was unprovided with medical comforts & medicines; ~~and~~ that he had no means of procuring them, and consequently felt considerable ~~uneasiness and distress~~ anxiety and distress, the Cholera having broken out, and 92 Men having already been taken ill —

— that in two hours after the receipt of Col Lockyer's letter your Memorialist had embarked a supply of comforts & Medicines for the use of the Regt & Hospital, and continued to forward further supplies once a week, there being no other possible means by which such supplies could have been procured —

— that for his conduct on that occasion your Memorialist was thanked by the Medical Board —

— that your Memorialist was also subsequently ~~that~~ thanked by Lord Lyons for discovering the cause of the malignant fever on board the Ship

5

"Modeste" (Capt. Butler R.N.) and for his success in remedying the same, and in treating the sick —

Your Memorialist also received a diamond ring and the thanks, through the British Government of the Archduke Charles, for services to one of His Imperial Highness's Men — Your memorialist also received the thanks of the late Duke of Wellington for his services during the cholera at Malta in the year [illegible]. Your Memorialist might relate many other occasions in which he has proved himself more than ordinarily zealous and useful during a long career in Her Majesty's Service, but he trusts that he has sufficiently shown that he has a claim to some consideration, not to any indulgence, from the Authorities under whom he is placed —

Your Memorialist has now only to state that having had the influenza in Canada he was ordered Home & after he examined by a Medical Board; that three days after his arrival in England he attended before the Board, consisting of three Junior Medical Officers, who pronounced Your Memorialist to be unfit for further service, the result of which opinion has been that he has been placed on Half Pay [on the 19 July 1859]

[He arrived 26 May 1859]

Without impugning the desire of the young Officers who

6

examined your Memorialists to perform their duty impartially and honestly he has to observe that not one of them had ever seen yr Memrt before; that your Memrt owing to his late illness in Canada, and to the effect of a Sea Voyage, from which he ~~usually~~ suffers greatly, looked unusually delicate and meagre; and that consequently the Board not unnaturally somewhat hastily jumped to the conclusion that your Memorialist was in a bad state of health; whereas the fact is that he feels and believes himself to be stronger & in better health than he has been for the last two or three years, and fully capable of effectively performing the duties of his rank.

Your Memrt therefore prays that he may be restored to full pay, and ordered back to Canada unless he has completed his full ~~service~~ period of service, of which he requires nearly twenty months; by which means yr Memrt will be saved from great pecuniary loss, and for the grant of which ~~boon~~ request your Memrt will ever pray, &c

To the Right Honble
The Secy of State for War

COPY

COPY

Patriall

[redacted]

Received
18 5 61
W. Vaulet
War Office.

Victoria

by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith &c.
To Our Trusty and well beloved James Barry Esquire, M.D. Greeting
We do by these Presents Constitute and Appoint you to be Inspector General of Hospitals, with local rank
from the 25th of September 1857. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of Inspector General of Hospitals by doing and performing all and all manner of Things thereunto belonging. And you are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to Time as you shall receive from Us or any your superior Officer according to the Rules and Discipline of War.
Given at our Court at Saint James's the Thirtieth day of September 1857 in the Twenty first Year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command.

James Barry Esqre M.D.
Inspector General of Hospitals
with local rank

Warrington sr. Engrossr to Her Majesty.
27 Strand

8

COPY

General Register Office,

Somerset House,

23rd August 1865

Sir

I has been stated to me that Inspector General Dr. James Barry, who died at 14 Margaret Street on 25th July 1865, was after his death found to be a female.

As you furnished the Certificate as to the cause of his death, I take the liberty of asking you whether what I have heard is true, and whether you yourself ascertained that he was a woman and apparently had been a mother?

Perhaps you may decline answering these questions; but I ask them not for publication but for my own information.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your faithful Servant

(GEORGE GRAHAM)

Registrar General

To:

Staff Surgeon Major

D.R. McKinnon

9.

COPY

Recruiting Department
25, Duke Street, Westminster

24th August 1865

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd August respecting the death of Inspector General Dr. James Barry.

I had been intimately acquainted with that gentleman for a good many years, both in the West Indies and in England, and I never had any suspicion that Dr. Barry was a female.

I attended him during his last illness, and for some months previously for bronchitis, and the affection causing his death was diarrhiea produced apparently by errors in diet.

On one occasion after Dr. Barry's death, I was sent for to the office of Sir Charles McGregor, and there the woman, who performed the last offices for Dr. Barry was waiting to speak to me.

She wished to obtain some perquisites of her employment which the Lady who kept the lodging house in which Dr. Barry died had refused to give her.

Amongst other things she said Dr. Barry was a female and that I was a pretty doctor not to know this and that she would not like to be attended by me. I informed her that it was none of my business whether Dr. Barry was was a male or a female - and that I thought it as likely he might be neither, viz an imperfectly developed man.

She then said that she had examined the body and that it was a perfect female and farther that there were marks of her having had a child when very young. I then enquired how have you formed this conclusion? The woman pointing to the lower part of her stomach, said from marks here, I am a married woman, and the mother of nine children. I ought to know.

/The.....

The woman seemed to me to think that she had become acquainted with a great secret and wished to be paid for keeping it. I informed her that all Dr. Barry's relatives were dead and that it was no secret of mine, and that my own impression was that Dr. Barry was a Hermaphrodite.

But whether Dr. Barry was male, female, or hermaphrodite I do not know, nor had I any purpose in making the discovery as I could positively swear to the identity of the body as being that of a person whom I had been acquainted with as Inspector General of Hospitals for a period of eight or nine years.

I have the honour to be Sir

Yours faithfully

(Signed)

D.R. McKinnon.

G. Graham Esq.,

Registrar General

//

COPY

The humble memorial of Dr. James Barry, Inspector General of Hospitals -

Therewith that your Memorialist entered the Army as a Medical Officer under the age of fourteen: that he has continuously served to the present time at the Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, Jamaica and had charge of the Windword and Leeword Islands and for 12 months, during the temporary absence of the Inspector General and was thanked in General Orders by Sir (????????) Wittingham, Trinidad, St Helena, Barbados, Antigua, Malta, Corfu, the Crimea, and Canada. -

-- that your Memorialist when at Malta in 185(1) was promoted to be Deputy Inspector General, and was transferred to Corfu, when he at once volunteered for Service in the Crimea; but there being no vacancy at the time for an officer of his rank he, in the meantime, endeavoured to make himself as useful as possible to the Army before Sebastopal by obtaining permission for 500 sick and wounded then being sent to Corfu, of whom he sent back fit for active Service nearly 400 -

-- than during that period the 97th Regt. having been ordered from Malta to the Pireus, your Memorialist received a letter from the Officer Commanding the Regt. (now M/Genl. Lockyer) to the effect that his Regiment was unprovided with medical comforts and medicines; that he had no means of procuring them, and consequently felt considerable anxiety and distress the cholera having broken out, and 92 men having already been taken ill -

-- that in two hours after the receipt of Col. Lockyer's letter your Memorialist had embarked a supply of comforts and medicines for the use of the Regiment and Hospital, and continued to forward further supplies once a week, there being no other possible means by which such supplies could have been procured -

-- that for his conduct on that occasion your Memorialist was thanked by the Medical Board -

-- that your Memorialist was also subsequently thanked by Lord Lyons for discovering the cause of the malignant fever on board H.M. Ship "Modeste" (Capt. Butler R.N.) and for his success in remedying the same, and in treating the sick -

your Memorialist also received a diamond ring and the thanks,

/through....

12

through the British Government, of the Arch Duke Charles for services to one of His Imperial Highness's men -

— Your Memorialist also received the thanks of the late Duke of Wellington for his services during the cholera at Malta in the year -

your Memorialist might relate many other occasions in which he has proved himself more than ordinarily zealous and useful during a long career in Her Majesty's Service, but he trusts that he has sufficiently shown that he has a claim to some consideration not to say indulgence, from the Authorities under whom he is placed -

— Your Memorialist has now only to state that having had the influenza in Canada he was ordered Home to be examined by a Medical Board; that three days after his arrival in England [He arrived 26 May 1859] he attended before the Board, consisting of three Junior Medical Officers, who pronounced your Memorialist to be unfit for further Service, the result of which opinion has been that he has been placed on Half Pay [on the 19 July 1859]

Without impinging the desire of the young officers who examined your Memorialist to perform their duty impartially and honestly he has to observe that not one of them had ever seen your Memorialist before,; that your Memorialist owing to his late illness in Canada, and to the effects of a sea voyage, from which he suffers greatly, looked unusually delicate and meagre, and that consequently the Board not unnaturally somewhat hastily jumped to the conclusion that your Memorialist was in a bad state of health; whereas the fact is that he feels and believes himself to be stronger and in better health than he has been for the last two or three years, and fully capable of effectively performing the duties of his rank.

13

Your Memorialist therefore prays that he may be restored to full pay, and ordered back to Canada until he has completed his full period of Service, of which he requires nearly twenty months; by which means your Memorialist will be saved from great pecuniary loss, and for the grant of which request your Memorialist will ever pray.

To the Right Hon

The Secretary of State for War

14

COPY

Memorandum of the Services of

Dr. James Barry

Inspector General of Hospitals

I entered the Army as a Medical Officer under the age of fourteen years and servee first at the Cape of Good Hope about thirteen years attached to the personal staff of the late General Lord Charles Somerset on whose resignation I was promoted to the rank of Staff Surgeon and sent to the Mauritius. I served there about eighteen months and was recalled in consequence of the serious illness of Lord Charles Somerset upon whose death I proceeded to Jamaica and served under Sir Willoughby Cotton during the Rebellion and the burning of the Plantations by the Negroes. I was in Medical charge of the Troops employed on that service, the Inspector General remaining at Head Quarters.

Thence I was ordered to St. Helena as Principal Medical Officer and subsequently to the Windward and Leeward Islands and did duty at Antigua and Trinidad, and for several months was in Medical charge of the Troops in the Command during the absence of the Inspector General and when relieved was thanked in General Orders by General Sir J. Whithingham.

Having returned to this country on sick leave after a serious attack of yellow fever contracted at Trinidad I was on my recovery sent to Malta as Principal Medical Officer and served under General Sir Patrick Stewart and General Ellice to both of whom I gave satisfaction as recorded in the Public Document and at the Medical Board and I also had the thanks of the Duke of Wellington for my services during the period that Island was visited by the cholera.

I was shortly after promoted to the rank of Deputy Inspector General in the Ionian Islands. During the period of my service there war was declared against Russia and at my suggestions to Lord Raglan and Inspector General Sir I Hall 500 of the sick and wounded from the Crimea were sent and placed under my charge at Corfu upwards of 400 of them returned fit for active service having been restored to health in an unusually short period and I myself proceeded on leave to the Crimea where I remained about three months with the 4th Division before Sebastopol

/and...

15

and made myself useful as opportunities offered which can be testified by Sir John Hall and the Colonel and officers of the 48th Regiment.

The 97th Regiment having been ordered from Malta to the Pireus I received at Corfu a letter from the Officer Commanding that Corps (now Major General Lockyer) to the effect that his Regiment was unprovided with medical comforts or medicines, that he had no means of procuring them and consequently felt considerable anxiety and distress, the cholera having broken out and 92 men having been already taken ill.

In two hours after the receipt of Colonel Lockyer's letter I had embarked a supply of comforts and medicines for the use of the Regiment and Hospital and continued to forward further supplies once a week there being no other possible means by which such supplies could have been procured.

For my conduct upon that occasion I was thanked by the Director General and the Officers Commanding 97th 3rd Buffs and 91st Regiments who consecutively received similar aid, I also had the approbation of Admiral Lord Lyons conveyed to me through Captain Butler Commanding the "Modeste" for my "zeal and services" having discovered the cause of the malignant fever on board that vessel and for my suffeasful treatment of the sick and the purification of the Ship.

I received also at Corfu through the British Government a Diamond Ring from the Archduke Maximilian for services to one of His Imperial Highneases Crew.

My period of service in the Ionian Islands having expired I was promoted to the rank of Inspector General of Hospitals in Canada where I remained nearly two years and returned to Europe in consequence of a serious attack of illness "Bronchitis" then prevailing in Canada. Lieut. General Sir W. Eyre the Commander of the Forces in that Colony was obliged to return about the same time under similar circumstances and his case I deeply regret to

/say..

16

terminated fatally.

Immediately on my arrival in London scarcely recovered and in addition labouring under the effects of Sea sickness during a rough and tempestuous voyage I was ordered before a Medical Board. Of the proceedings of this Board which consisted of three Junior Officers perfect strangers to me and to my peculiar habits, I know nothing, but the result was my being placed upon Half Pay without having completed my period of service in the Rank I had attained which I deemed hard considering my faithful and active service extending over a period of more than 40 years.

I may add that during this lengthened period of my service I obtained leave of absence on private affairs on only one occasion and then only when I conceived my prospects in the service were seriously compromised for want of a personal appeal at Head Quarters.

On each change of Station I was put to an immense personal outlay the climates of each being of such different temperatures.

Each move entailed a sacrifice of property then in my possession and an outlay to procure that required for the service in prospect.

I am now prepared to serve Her Majesty in any quarter of the Globe to which I may be sent and am loath to close a career which impartially may be deemed to have been a useful and faithful one without some special mark of Her Majesty's gracious favor.

(James Barry MD)
Inspector General

17.

The Library,
British Medical Association,
429, Strand,
London, W.C.

28th Oct. 190

Dear Colonel Johnston,

If you are interested in Barry there is a good deal about {her} in "The Lancet" for 1895 (Vol. II) pp. 959, 1021, 1036, 1269. There seems to be no doubt she was a genuine woman.

t. 9, 1865 293

d me the fact,
h appearance;
e was told that
He soon after
cated with the
vernor. As he
celebrity as a
ght after. He
he was accus-
Medicine, and
Hospital duty.
ppearance and
carcely reached
racters of man-
n. He sought
s, and wore the
He was always
rots. His food
fter life he took
lal and gossip,
out with some
ers off. When
ted, he went to
s passed, when
em, and repre-
a most injured
from the officer
t of his death,
t any examina-
efully secluded
e went to St.
Major-General
e was stationed
rbadoes, and in
I had, in the
great offence by
ably 50 years of
in the army, but
t his prospects."
gular craving for
m as during his
ness, and had a
ith deference he
rth at his own
tance, his anger
station which he
set at defiance.
nd at Corfu, and
huge sword and

aspector-General,
eral years. He
lied in London in

nper brought him
s, however, very
de to those who

out him since his
There can be no
real physical con-
development had
life. It is greatly
eath was allowed
al condition by a

ing of a frame so
emper so irritable
severe sickness in
e with authority,
Medical Depart-

ARD BRADFORD.

N ADULTS.
NDER.

ad Gazette.]
Wilks has recorded
MOUTH IN adults. Two cases
come under my observation:
Peckham, whom I had a few

18

"Fifty Years of my Life"

Ask the Year Round for May, year?
"A Modern Sphinx" by R. Rogers,
date & publisher unknown
"Madeline's Mystery" by Miss
Braddon.

S. African Medical ~~Journ~~ Journal
for ~~1894 or 95~~ Oct 1894, p. 146.

July, 1865 died & inquest
held. Buried Kensal Green.
"Fifty Years of my Life" by
the late Earl (1895) of Albemarle.

Taylor "Med. Juris.", 4th edn.
Vth edn. vol II p. 158

er, and who told me the fact,
nt of his childish appearance;
e authorities, he was told that
the question." He soon after
e, and was educated with the
was then governor. As he
d a certain celebrity as a
much sought after. He
French, but he was accus-
g skilled in Medicine, and
me a day's Hospital duty.
dica. His appearance and
His stature scarcely reached
f all the characters of man-
aged woman. He sought
f conspicuous, and wore the
ld obtain. He was always
keys, and parrots. His food
fruit, but in after life he took
ted in scandal and gossip,
e had gone out with some
of his whiskers off. When
hich he disliked, he went to
e danger was passed, when
he called them, and repre-
orities as a most injured
bly exacted from the officer
in the event of his death,
d to prevent any examina-
ing, he carefully secluded
Jamaica he went to St.
storm that Major-General
After this he was stationed
ed), in Barbadoes, and in
tremely ill. I had, in the
o give him great offence by
e was probably 50 years of
ree years in the army, but
mpt to blast his prospects."
he same singular craving for
nifest in him as during his
much acuteness, and had a
s treated with deference he
enjoy mirth at his own
his importance, his anger
thority or station which he
would not set at defiance.
at Malta and at Corfu, and
ed with his huge sword and

rank of Inspector-General,
served several years. He
1859, and died in London in

patient temper brought him
rity; he was, however, very
of gratitude to those who

culated about him since his
refuted. There can be no
a that his real physical con-
m sexual development had
th of fortal life. It is greatly
ty of his death was allowed
n of his real condition by a

s, that a being of a frame so
s, with a temper so irritable
frequent severe sickness in
at variance with authority,
rank in the Medical Depart-
f 65 years.

EDWARD BRADFORD.

H, ETC., IN ADULTS.
. F. MAUNDER.

cal Times and Gazette.]
day Dr. Wilks has recorded
mouth in adults. Two cases
come under my observation:
Peckham, whom I had a few

19

Fifty Years of my Life
by the late Earl of
Albemarle.
?1895

vol II, p. 290.

er, and who told me the fact,
nt of his childish appearance;
e authorities, he was told that
the question." He soon after
e, and was educated with the
ho was then governor. As he
and a certain celebrity as a
een much sought after. He
nd French, but he was accus-
ing skilled in Medicine, and
done a day's Hospital duty.
maica. His appearance and
. His stature scarcely reached
te of all the characters of man-
an aged woman. He sought
self conspicuous, and wore the
ould obtain. He was always
onkeys, and parrots. His food
d fruit, but in after life he took
ghted in scandal and gossip,
n he had gone out with some
me of his whiskers off. When
which he disliked, he went to
the danger was passed, when
as he called them, and repre-
orities as a most injured
bly exacted from the officer
in the event of his death,
ed to prevent any examina-
ling, he carefully secluded
Jamaica he went to St.
storm that Major-General
After this he was stationed
ied), in Barbadoes, and in
tremely ill. I had, in the
to give him great offence by
e was probably 50 years of
hree years in the army, but
mpt to blast his prospects."
he same singular craving for
anifest in him as during his
much acuteness, and had a
s treated with deference he
l enjoy mirth at his own
his importance, his anger
thority or station which he
would not set at defiance.
l at Malta and at Corfu, and
red with his huge sword and

rank of Inspector-General,
served several years. He
1859, and died in London in

npatient temper brought him
rity; he was, however, very
of gratitude to those who

culated about him since his
refuted. There can be no
a that his real physical con-
m sexual development had
th of fœtal life. It is greatly
ty of his death was allowed
n of his real condition by a

s, that a being of a frame so
ts, with a temper so irritable
frequent severe sickness in
y at variance with authority,
rank in the Medical Depart-
f 65 years.

EDWARD BRADFORD.

H, ETC., IN ADULTS.
. F. MAUNDER.

cal Times and Gazette.]
day Dr. Wilks has recorded
mouth in adults. Two cases
come under my observation:
Peckham, whom I had a few

Surgeon major

20

Fifty Years of my Life
by the late Earl of
Albemarle.
1895

er, and who told me the fact,
nt of his childish appearance;
e authorities, he was told that
the question." He soon after
e, and was educated with the
ho was then governor. As he
and a certain celebrity as a
een much sought after. He
nd French, but he was accus-
ing skilled in Medicine, and
done a day's Hospital duty.
maica. His appearance and
. His stature scarcely reached
te of all the characters of man-
an aged woman. He sought
self conspicuous, and wore the
ould obtain. He was always
onkeys, and parrots. His food
d fruit, but in after life he took
ghted in scandal and gossip,
n he had gone out with some
ne of his whiskers off. When
which he disliked, he went to
the danger was passed, when
as he called them, and repre-
uthorities as a most injured
ariably exacted from the officer
at, in the event of his death,
opted to prevent any examina-
velling, he carefully secluded
om Jamaica he went to St.
a storm that Major-General
. After this he was stationed
died), in Barbadoes, and in
Trinidad, where he was again extremely ill. I had, in the last-named island, the misfortune to give him great offence by stating in an official report that he was probably 50 years of age. He had then been thirty-three years in the army, but he called the report a "base attempt to blast his prospects." Yet he forgave me afterwards. The same singular craving for authority and power was here manifest in him as during his whole life. He was gifted with much acuteness, and had a good memory. So long as he was treated with deference he was good humoured, and would enjoy mirth at his own expense; but if anything touched his importance, his anger knew no bounds; there was no authority or station which he (secure in his own importance) would not set at defiance. After this period he was stationed at Malta and at Corfu, and during the Crimean war he appeared with his huge sword and spurs at Balaclava.

He subsequently obtained the rank of Inspector-General, and went to Canada, where he served several years. He finally retired from the service in 1859, and died in London in July last.

Through life his irritable and impatient temper brought him into constant collision with authority; he was, however, very capable of generous feeling, and of gratitude to those who were kind to him.

The stories which have been circulated about him since his death are too absurd to be gravely refuted. There can be no doubt among those who knew him that his real physical condition was that of a male in whom sexual development had been arrested about the sixth month of fœtal life. It is greatly to be regretted that the opportunity of his death was allowed to pass without exact observation of his real condition by a skilled person.

The real marvel of his history is, that a being of a frame so feeble, without domestic resources, with a temper so irritable and even mischievous, in spite of frequent severe sickness in tropical climates, and constantly at variance with authority, should have attained the highest rank in the Medical Department, and have lived to the age of 65 years.

August. EDWARD BRADFORD.

GRIFFIN TESTIMONIAL FUND.

LETTER FROM DR. ROBT. FOWLER.

[To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.]

SIR,—At the last meeting of the Committee it was resolved that the above fund should be definitely closed.

Intending subscribers will oblige by forwarding their contributions on or before October 31st proximo to

Yours, &c.,

ROBERT FOWLER, M.D., Treasurer and Hon. Sec.

145, Bishopsgate-street Without, September 6, 1865.

THE REPUTED FEMALE ARMY SURGEON.

LETTER FROM DEPUTY-INSPECTOR BRADFORD.

[To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.]

SIR,—The annexed notice has reference to the history of an individual recently deceased, and to whom allusion is made in your number of August 26 under the head of "A Female Medical Combatant." There are, no doubt, some who are better acquainted with his early history than I am, but I think it is due not only to the Department in which he was so long permitted to exercise control, but still more to the interests of truth, that the rumours which have been circulated (and, no doubt, believed) concerning him should be contradicted. You are therefore authorised, if you see fit, to publish the enclosed.

I am, &c.

EDWARD BRADFORD, Deputy-Inspector-General of Hospitals.

R. M. College, Sandhurst, September 2.

The late Dr. J. B. was born about the beginning of the present century. He was understood to have been born prematurely, and his mother died in her confinement. His father also died at the same time. He would at times make allusion to these matters, but only in vague terms. He was adopted and reared by persons of high rank, and, for some reason unexplained, the . . . family appeared to maintain an enduring interest in him to such an extent that, in his manifold military irregularities, the influence of members of that family was known to support and protect him. I have learned that the celebrated John Bell was concerned in his nurture, and that, through his instrumentality, he obtained at Edinburgh the degree of M.D. at a very early age. In the year 1813 he was sent to Plymouth in the capacity of Hospital Assistant. The principal Medical officer at that station, who still survives, a

APTHÆ OF THE MOUTH, ETC., IN ADULTS.

LETTER FROM MR. C. F. MAUNDER.

[To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.]

SIR,—In your impression of to-day Dr. Wilks has recorded some instances of apthæ of the mouth in adults. Two cases of a similar nature have lately come under my observation: one a young woman residing at Peckham, whom I had a few

excludes the employment of tonics. In any similar condition the well-directed administration of the Ems springs, internally and externally, produces the most advantageous results." Ems has a reputation for the cure or amelioration of consumption. It no doubt soothes chronic catarrh, but Dr. Lee quotes Lersch:—"Tuberculous patients go to Ems mostly to their prejudice when the disease is not in its first stage and complicated with abdominal obstruction." Scrofulous children may derive benefit from the use of the Ems water if not kept at Ems during the hot months. At Ems there is a natural ascending douche, which rises in a jet three feet high. This douche has acquired a great reputation for the cure of sterility, and has been christened the "Bubenquelle" (Baby spring). It is a remedy of great power, and in cases of chronic congestion, or *infarct.* of the womb, undoubtedly may do great good. It as undoubtedly, however, may do great harm. The climate of Ems is extremely relaxing. The town, itself agreeable and well built, with stately Curhaus and well-ordered pleasure-grounds, lies in a narrow valley sheltered on almost every side from the wind, and often covered over with a damp fog.

Our space will not allow us to follow Dr. Lee's description of the other baths of Nassau. We have to pass over Schlangenbad, whose rejuvenating powers are so marked that, in speaking of it, a delighted Frenchman exclaimed, "On y devient positivement amoureux de soi même;"—Weilbach, with its mild, cold, sulphurous waters, not unlike those of our own Moffat;—the salt springs of Soden, and the sparkling waters of Fachingen and Selters.

We feel confident that Dr. Lee's book will continue to enjoy the reputation which it has already gained.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

GRIFFIN TESTIMONIAL FUND.

LETTER FROM DR. ROBT. FOWLER.

[To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.]

SIR,—At the last meeting of the Committee it was resolved that the above fund should be definitely closed.

Intending subscribers will oblige by forwarding their contributions on or before October 31st proximo to

Yours, &c.,

ROBERT FOWLER, M.D., Treasurer and Hon. Sec.

145, Bishopsgate-street Without, September 6, 1865.

THE REPUTED FEMALE ARMY SURGEON.

LETTER FROM DEPUTY-INSPECTOR BRADFORD.

[To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.]

SIR,—The annexed notice has reference to the history of an individual recently deceased, and to whom allusion is made in your number of August 26 under the head of "A Female Medical Combatant." There are, no doubt, some who are better acquainted with his early history than I am, but I think it is due not only to the Department in which he was so long permitted to exercise control, but still more to the interests of truth, that the rumours which have been circulated (and, no doubt, believed) concerning him should be contradicted. You are therefore authorised, if you see fit, to publish the enclosed.

I am, &c.

EDWARD BRADFORD, Deputy-Inspector-General of Hospitals.

R. M. College, Sandhurst, September 2.

The late Dr. J. B. was born about the beginning of the present century. He was understood to have been born prematurely, and his mother died in her confinement. His father also died at the same time. He would at times make allusion to these matters, but only in vague terms. He was adopted and reared by persons of high rank, and, for some reason unexplained, the . . . family appeared to maintain an enduring interest in him to such an extent that, in his manifold military irregularities, the influence of members of that family was known to support and protect him. I have learned that the celebrated John Bell was concerned in his nurture, and that, through his instrumentality, he obtained at Edinburgh the degree of M.D. at a very early age. In the year 1813 he was sent to Plymouth in the capacity of Hospital Assistant. The principal Medical officer at that station, who still survives, a venerable and most worthy officer, and who told me the fact, objected to receive him on account of his childish appearance; but on referring the matter to the authorities, he was told that "it was not desirable to agitate the question." He soon after went to the Cape of Good Hope, and was educated with the children of Lord C. Somerset, who was then governor. As he grew older, he obtained rank, and a certain celebrity as a Doctor, and is said to have been much sought after. He attained a knowledge of Latin and French, but he was accustomed to ridicule the idea of being skilled in Medicine, and often boasted that he never had done a day's Hospital duty. I first met him in 1832, in Jamaica. His appearance and manners were then most singular. His stature scarcely reached five feet. He was quite destitute of all the characters of manhood. His voice was that of an aged woman. He sought every opportunity of making himself conspicuous, and wore the longest sword and spurs he could obtain. He was always addicted to pet animals, dogs, monkeys, and parrots. His food consisted at this time of milk and fruit, but in after life he took more solid nutriment. He delighted in scandal and gossip, and told me that on one occasion he had gone out with some one at the Cape, and had shot one of his whiskers off. When suddenly called on for a duty which he disliked, he went to bed, and wept like a child till the danger was passed, when he turned on his persecutors, as he called them, and represented himself to the home authorities as a most injured person. When he was ill he invariably exacted from the officer who attended him a promise that, in the event of his death, strict precautions should be adopted to prevent any examination of his person. When travelling, he carefully secluded himself from observation. From Jamaica he went to St. Helena, and there raised such a storm that Major-General Middlemore ordered him home. After this he was stationed in Antigua (where he nearly died), in Barbadoes, and in Trinidad, where he was again extremely ill. I had, in the last-named island, the misfortune to give him great offence by stating in an official report that he was probably 50 years of age. He had then been thirty-three years in the army, but he called the report a "base attempt to blast his prospects." Yet he forgave me afterwards. The same singular craving for authority and power was here manifest in him as during his whole life. He was gifted with much acuteness, and had a good memory. So long as he was treated with deference he was good humoured, and would enjoy mirth at his own expense; but if anything touched his importance, his anger knew no bounds; there was no authority or station which he (secure in his own importance) would not set at defiance. After this period he was stationed at Malta and at Corfu, and during the Crimean war he appeared with his huge sword and spurs at Balaclava.

He subsequently obtained the rank of Inspector-General, and went to Canada, where he served several years. He finally retired from the service in 1859, and died in London in July last.

Through life his irritable and impatient temper brought him into constant collision with authority; he was, however, very capable of generous feeling, and of gratitude to those who were kind to him.

The stories which have been circulated about him since his death are too absurd to be gravely refuted. There can be no doubt among those who knew him that his real physical condition was that of a male in whom sexual development had been arrested about the sixth month of fœtal life. It is greatly to be regretted that the opportunity of his death was allowed to pass without exact observation of his real condition by a skilled person.

The real marvel of his history is, that a being of a frame so feeble, without domestic resources, with a temper so irritable and even mischievous, in spite of frequent severe sickness in tropical climates, and constantly at variance with authority, should have attained the highest rank in the Medical Department, and have lived to the age of 65 years.

August. EDWARD BRADFORD.

APTHÆ OF THE MOUTH, ETC., IN ADULTS.

LETTER FROM MR. C. F. MAUNDER.

[To the Editor of the Medical Times and Gazette.]

SIR,—In your impression of to-day Dr. Wilks has recorded some instances of apthæ of the mouth in adults. Two cases of a similar nature have lately come under my observation: one a young woman residing at Peckham, whom I had a few

22

D.G. A.M.D.

The enclosed papers were returned to Registry yesterday by Sir S. Lugard - As none of them bear A.M.D. numbers probably they shd be retained in your Department.?

M.

28/71.

Recruiting Office
London
August 24th/65.

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT RECEIVED AUG 25 1865

the honor to
your information
correspondence
ence to the
spector General
s Barry.

have the honor to be

Your most obedient Humble Servt

D. R. McKinnon, M.B.
A. M. Kennan M.B.
A. Surgeon Major

The Director General
Army Medical Department.

23

18913
No 3

Recruiting Office
London
August 24th/65

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED
AUG 25
1865

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for your information the attached correspondence with reference to the late Inspector General Dr. James Barry.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most obedient Humble Servt

D. R. McKinnon, M.B.
Surgeon Major

The Director General
Army Medical Department

24

18913
3

General Register Office
Somerset House
23rd August 1865.

Sir,

It has been stated to me that Inspector General Dr James Barry, who died at 14 Margaret St on 25th July 1865, was after his death found to be a Female.

As you furnished the Certificate as to the cause of his death, I take the liberty of asking you whether what I have heard is true, and whether you yourself ascertained that he was a woman and apparently had been a Mother?

Perhaps you may decline answering these questions, but I ask them not for publication but for my own information.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your faithful Servant
George Graham
Registrar General

To
Staff Surgeon Major
D. R. McKinnon

She wished to obtain some perquisites of her employment which the Lady who kept the lodging house in which Dr Barry died had refused to give her.

Amongst other things she said Dr Barry was a female & that I was a pretty Doctor not to know

Copy
C

18913
3

Recruiting Department
25 Duke St. Westminster
24th August 1865

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd August, respecting the death of Inspector General Dr James Barry.

I had been intimately acquainted with that gentleman for a good many years, both in the West Indies, & in England; and I never had any suspicion that Dr Barry was a female.

I attended him during his last illness, and for some months previously, for bronchitis, of the affection causing his death was diarrhea produced apparently by errors in diet.

On one occasion after Dr Barry's death, I was sent for to the office of Sir Charles McGregor, & there the woman, who performed the last offices for Dr Barry was waiting to speak to me.

She wished to obtain some perquisites of her employment which the Lady who kept the lodging house in which Dr Barry died had refused to give her.

Amongst other things she said Dr Barry was a female & that I was a pretty Doctor not to know

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT RECEIVED AUG 25 1865

26

know this & that she would not like to be attended by me. I informed her that it was none of my business whether Dr Barry was a male or a female - & that I thought it as likely it might be neither, viz an imperfectly developed man.

She then said that she had examined the body & that it was a perfect female & farther that there were marks of her having had a child when very young. I then inquired how have you formed this conclusion? The woman pointing to the lower part of her stomach, said from marks here. I am a married woman, & the mother of nine children & I ought to know.

The woman seemed to me to think that she had become acquainted with a great secret & wished to be paid for keeping it. I informed her that all Dr Barry's relatives were dead, & that it was no secret of mine, & that my own impression was that Dr Barry was a Hermaphrodite.

But whether Dr Barry was male, female, or hermaphrodite I do not know, nor had I any purpose in making the discovery

as

27

as I could positively swear to the identity of the body as being that of a person whom I had been acquainted with as Inspector General of Hospitals for a period of eight or nine years.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your faithfully
(Signed)
D R McKinnon.

P. Graham Esq
Registrar General

Sir J B. Gibson. K.C.B.
Director General.

Your most obedient humble Servant
D. R. McKinnon, M.D.
D. R. McKinnon M.D.
A. Surgeon Major

76

18013
2

25 Duke St
Westminster
July 25/65.

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED
JULY 25
1865

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Officer, named in the margin, died at 4 o'clock A.M. this morning.

Inspector General
Dr. James Barry

Address.
14. Margaret Street
Cavendish Square

Disease "Diarrhoea."

1899

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient humble Servant
D. R. McKinnon, M.D.
D. R. McKinnon M.B.
A. Surgeon Major

Sir J. B. Gibson K.C.B.
Director General.

29

18913
R.1

May 10th 1860

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
RECEIVED
MAY 29
1860

MEMORANDUM—

Embarked at Quebec 14th May 1857 - Landed at Liverpool the 26th & arrived in London on the 1st June being detained by illness at Liverpool - James Barry Esq Inspector General
J. Barry Esq M.D.
Insp General H.P.

~~Assistant Surgeon~~

Inspector General of Hospitals
~~ASSISTANT SURGEON~~
J. Barry M.D.

is requested to return this Memorandum after having inserted in the Margin the ~~Place, Day, Month, and Year of his Birth, attested by his Signature.~~
date of leaving Canada and arrival at Home -

Army Medical Department.
5 March 1860

Islands and did Duty at Antigua and Trinidad, and for several months was in Medical Charge of the Troops in the Command during the absence of the Inspector General and when relieved was thanked

30

18913

Memorandum of the Services of Dr. James Barry Inspector General of Hospitals -

ARMY & ORDNANCE RECEIVED JAN 18

I entered the Army as a Medical Officer under the age of fourteen years and served first at the Cape of Good Hope about thirteen years attached to the personal Staff of the late General Lord Charles Somerset on whose resignation I was promoted to the rank of Staff Surgeon and sent to the Mauritius, I served there about eighteen months and was recalled in consequence of the serious illness of Lord Charles Somerset upon whose death I proceeded to Jamaica and served under Sir Willoughby Cotton during the Rebellion and the burning of the Plantations by the Negroes, I was in Medical charge of the Troops employed on that service the Inspector General remaining at Head Quarters.

Thence I was ordered to St Helena as Principal Medical Officer and subsequently to the Windward and Leward Islands and did Duty at Antigua and Trinidad, and for several months was in Medical charge of the Troops in the Command during the absence of the Inspector General and when relieved was

thanked

31

thanked in General Orders by General Sir J Whitingham.

Having returned to this Country on sick leave after a serious attack of Yellow fever contracted at Trinidad I was on my recovery sent to Malta as Principal Medical Officer and served under General Sir Patrick Stewart and General Ellice to both of whom I gave satisfaction as recorded in the Public Documents at the Medical Board and I also had the thanks of the Duke of Wellington for my services during the period that Island was visited by the cholera.

I was shortly after promoted to the rank of Deputy Inspector General in the Ionian Islands. During the period of my service there War was declared against Russia and at my suggestions to Lord Raglan and Inspector General Sir J Hall 500 of the sick and wounded from the Crimea were sent and placed under my charge at Corfu, upwards of 400 of them returned fit for active service having been restored to health in an unusually short period and I myself proceeded on leave to the Crimea where I remained about three months with the 4th Division before Sebastopol and made myself useful as opportunities offered which can be testified by Sir John Hall and the Colonel and Officers of

32

of the 48th Regiment.

The 97th Regiment having been ordered from Malta to the Pireus I received at Corfu a letter from the Officer Commanding that Corps (now Major General Lockyer) to the effect that his Regiment was unprovided with Medical Comforts or Medicines, that he had no means of procuring them and con= =sequently felt considerable anxiety and distress, the cholera having broken out and 92 Men having been already taken ill.

In two hours after the receipt of Colonel Lockyer's letter I had embarked a supply of comforts and Medicines for the use of the Regiment and Hospital and continued to forward further supplies once a week there being no other possible means by which such supplies could have been procured.

For my conduct upon that occasion I was thanked by the Director General and the Officers Commanding 97th 3rd Buffs and 91st Regiments who consecutively received similar aid, I also had the approbation of Admiral Lord Lyons conveyed to me through Captain Butler Commanding the "Modeste" for my zeal and services" having discovered the cause of the Malignant fever on board that Vessel and for my succesful treatment of the sick and the purification of the Ship.

I received also at Corfu through the

British

33

British Government a magnificent Diamond Ring from the Archduke Maximilian for services to one of His Imperial Highnesses Crew.

My period of service in the Ionian Islands having expired I was promoted to the rank of Inspector General of Hospitals in Canada where I remained nearly two years and returned to Europe in consequence of a serious attack of illness "Bronchitis" then prevailing in Canada. Lieut General Sir W Eyre the Commander of the Forces in that Colony was obliged to return about the same time under similar circumstances and his case I deeply regret to say terminated fatally. —

Immediately on my arrival in London scarcely recovered and in addition labouring under the effects of sea sickness during a rough and tempestuous voyage I was ordered before a Medical Board of the proceedings of this Board which consisted of three Junior Officers perfect strangers to me and to my peculiar habits I know nothing, but the result was my being placed upon Half Pay without having completed my period of service in the Rank I had attained which I deemed hard considering my faithful and active service extending over a period of more than 40 years.

34

6

I may add that during this lengthened period of my service I obtained leave of absence on private affairs on only one occasion and then only when I conceived my prospects in the service were seriously compromised for want of a personal appeal at Head Quarters.

On each change of Station I was put to an immense personal outlay the Climates of each being of such different temperatures.

Each move entailed a sacrifice of property then in my possession and an outlay to procure that required for the service in prospect.

I am now prepared to serve Her Majesty in any quarter of the Globe to which I may be sent and am loath to close a carter which impartially may be deemed to have been a useful and faithful one without some special mark of Her Majesty's gracious favor.

James Berry R.N.
Inspector General

Army Medical Department
20th Jany 1830
10785

Sir

The General Commanding in Chief having been pleased to approve of your being employed in Jamaica I have to request you will prepare accordingly for Embarkation for that Station.

You will be pleased to acknowledge the receipt of this Letter & state whether you will convenience for any Person to accompany you.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servant

Dr James Barry
Staff Surgeon

Director General

10785

To be written. 20th August

Mr Farmer being down to 1st Sept

being down on about the 25th Sept

Horse Guards
14th Aug. 1830

Sir,

Having laid before the General Commanding in Chief your Letter of the 11th Instant, I am directed to acquaint you that His Lordship approves of Staff Surgeon Dr James Barry being ordered to Jamaica in the room of Dr Gilson, who is about to retire from the Service, agreeably to your recommendation, and the necessary communication has been made to Major General Sir John Keane accordingly.

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant

H. Fitzroy Somerset

Director General
of the
Army Medical
Department

Surgeon Babtie amd 11/11/10

TO BE LEFT BLANK.

R.A.M.C
MUNIMENT
ROOM

38

R.A.M.C
MUNIMENT
ROOM